

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 275202

FOR ASST SEC ENDERS

FOL RPT LONDON 17794 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO BRASILIA
BOGOTA ABIDJAN ADDIS ABABA ACCRA NAIROBI MONROVIA YAOUNDE
BANGUI LUSAKA LIBREVILLE LOME KIGALI FREETOWN KINSHASA NOV 19 QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 17794

FOR EB KATZ: L - STOWE

E.O. LL652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ETRD, EAGR, AOUS

SUBJECT: ANGOLAN DELEGATION TO COFFEE CONFERENCE

REF: LONDON 17714

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: BY END OF DAY NOVEMBER 18, ANGOLA
CREDENTIALS AND SEATING QUESTION RESOLVED FOR TIME BEING.
THERE WILL BE NO ANGOLA DEL SEAT AT CONFERENCE MEETING,
AND CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE WILL REPORT TO EFFECT ANGOLAN
CREDENTIALS RECEIVED THUS FAR ARE NOT VALID. CREDEN-
TIALS REPORT AS FINALLY DRAFTED HAD UNANIMOUS COMMITTEE
APPROVAL AND WE THINK MEETS WITH GENERAL APPROVAL OF
MEMBERSHIP, BUT ISSUE OF ANGOLA SEAT WAS NOT RESOLVED
UNTIL AFTER COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULED FOR 4:00 P.M. WAS
SUSPENDED FOR WANT OF QUORUM (US IN CONSULTATION WITH
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR). EXCEPT FOR APPRECIATED SUPPORT
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IN CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE BY FINNS, WE FOUGHT BATTLE

ALONE. OTHER CONSUMERS PRIVATELY INDICATED THEIR SUPPORT, BUT PRODUCERS TENDED TO BE NON-COMMITTED, AND SOMETIMES CRITIC OF OUR TACTICS. MEDINA HAS AGREED WITH EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR NOT TO PRESS ISSUE FURTHER FOR MOMENT, BUT HE HOPES TO HAVE MPLA NOTIFY UN SECGEN SO CAN REAPPEAR WITH FRESH CREDENTIALS. END SUMMARY.

2. AT FORMAL MEETING OF CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE HELD NOVEMBER 18, COMMITTEE AGREED THAT ANGOLA SHOULD NOT BE LISTED AS COUNTRY WITH PROPERLY ACCREDITED CREDENTIALS, BUT RATHER SEPARATE PARAGRAPH IN COMMITTEE'S REPORT WOULD STATE AS FOLLOWS: BEGIN QUOTE: THE COMMITTEE NOTED THAT THE CREDENTIALS RECEIVED FOR ANGOLA WERE ACCEPTABLE UP TO 10 NOVEMBER 1975. SINCE THAT DATE, ANGOLA HAS NOT MADE THE NOTIFICATION PROVIDED FOR IN PARAGRAPH (4) OF ARTICLE 65. END QUOTE. AT MEETING IT WAS NOTED BY OTHERS THAT CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE NOT LEGALLY EMPOWERED TO DETERMINE WHETHER THERE SHOULD BE ANGOLA SEAT, BUT ONLY COULD PASS ON VALIDITY OF CREDENTIALS PRESENTED. DESPITE THIS VIEW, PARAGRAPH CLEARLY MEANS ANGOLA NOT NOW A MEMBER OF COUNCIL AND THERE NO ACCREDITED ANGOLA DEL.

3. A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HAD BEEN PREVIOUSLY SCHEDULED FOR 4:00 P.M. IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE, AT WHICH TIME THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT WAS TO HAVE BEEN PRESENTED AND SUBSTANTIVE BUSINESS OF NEGOTIATIONS TRANSACTED.

4. USDEL IMMEDIATELY BEGAN CONSULTATIONS' MEETING WITH EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BELTRAO AND CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN TO DETERMINE PROCEDURE TO BE FOLLOWED IN COUNCIL REGARDING ANGOLAN PARTICIPATION UP TO MOMENT OF CONSIDERATION OF CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT. WE HAD LITTLE DOUBT OF ACCEPTANCE BUT WANTED TO AVOID ANY CHANCE OF PARTICIPATION BY DELEGATION PURPORTING TO REPRESENT ANGOLA AT ANY POINT IN THE SESSION. UNTIL THIS POINT SETTLED, USDEL AVOIDED COUNCIL ROOM EVEN THOUGH DELEGATES WERE BEGINNING TO GATHER AND WERE OBVIOUSLY RESTIVE. TECHNICALLY, THERE WAS NO QUESTION OF A US BOYCOTT, BUT FIRM DIRECTIONS WERE GIVEN THAT NO MEMBER OF USDEL BE IN ROOM UNTIL IRON CLAD PROCEDURE WORKED OUT TO AVOID SEATING.

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5. AFTER CONSULTATION WITH USDEL, BELTRAO HAD PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS ON PROBLEM WITH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN CANTU AND ONE LASTING BETTER THAN AN HOUR WITH MEDINA. AT 6:30 PM, CANTU REPORTEDLY INFORMED ASSEMBLED DELEGATES AS COURTESY TO THEM THAT QUORUM DID NOT EXIST AND THAT SESSION WOULD NOT BE HELD, BUT THAT CONSUMER AND PRODUCER CONSENSUS WOULD BE HELD NEXT AFTERNOON. REPORTED-

LY, CANTU MADE NO MENTION OF ANGOLA NOR OF FACT THAT USDEL NEEDED TO CONSTITUTE A QUORUM.

FOR EB KATZ & SS

FOR EB KATZ - L

6. BELTRAO TOLD US HIS CONSULTATION WITH MEDINA RESULTED IN ACQUIESCENCE BY LATTER THAT HE WOULD GRACEFULLY ACCEPT SITUATION -- FOR MOMENT. THIS MEANS REMOVAL OF ANGOLA PLACARD AND DENIAL OF ENTRY TO ANY ANGOLAN DELEGATION (MEDINA PRESUMABLY MIGHT STILL ATTEND AS MEMBER PTRTUGUESE DEL, BUT HE APPARENTLY DISINCLINED TO DO SO). MEDINA MADE IT CLEAR, HOWEVER, HE INTENDED RETURN AS ANGOLAN IF AND WHEN UN INFORMS COUNCIL THAT MPLA GOVERNMENT HAS NOTIFIED UN SECRETARY GENERAL PURSUANT ARTICLE 65. (NOTE: SECRETARIAT TELLS US MPLA HAS NOW NOTIFIED ICO THAT MEDINA IS THEIR REPRESENTATIVE; THIS WAS NOT BROUGHT TO CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE ATTENTION.)

7. TO OUR KNOWLEDGE, US WAS ONLY DEL NOT ATTENDING COUNCIL MEETING, THOUGH FINNS MAY ALSO HAVE BEEN ABSENT. FRENCH TAKE POSITION THEY HAVE NOT RECOGNIZED INDEPENDENT STATE RPT STATE OF ANGOLA; THEREFORE ANGOLA STILL PORTUGUESE, AND CREDENTIALS ISSUED BY PORTUGAL FOR ANGOLA STILL VALID. OTHER DELS CLEARLY REJECT FRENCH MENTAL GYMNASTICS IN ARRIVING AT THIS POSITION. GERMANS AND BRITISH STATE THEY HAVE SAME VIEW AS US DEL, BUT NEVERTHELESS SHOWED UP FOR COUNCIL MEETING, DESPITE PRESENCE OF ANGOLAN PLACARD AND INDIVIDUALS PURPORTING TO BE ADVISERS. WHETHER FRG AND HMG WOULD HAVE ABSENTED THEMSELVES AFTER CREDENTIALS REPORT IF ANGOLA PLACARD CONFIDENTIAL

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REMAINED IN PLACE IS UNCLEAR.

8. WITH EXCEPTION BRAZIL, ALL OTHER DELS CONSULTED AGREE THERE SHOULD BE NO COFFEE COUNCIL ACTION IMPLYING RECOGNITION OF ANY ANGOLA GOVERNMENT. AUSTRALIA LATER TOLD US THEIR POSITION "ALMOST AS STRONG AS YOURS". SWISS HAVE GIVEN STRONG MORAL SUPPORT FROM BEGINNING. HOWEVER, ALL CONTENT TO LET US GO IT ALONE IN ATTEMPTING TO HAVE PLACARD REMOVED PRIOR TO COUNCIL MEETING. WE WERE CRITICIZED BY SOME OTHERS. BANNY (SECRETARY GENERAL OF INTER-AFRICAN COFFEE ORGANIZATION) WAS SPECIFICALLY CRITICAL OF US FOR ABSENTING ITSELF FROM COUNCIL MEETING. BANNY SUGGESTED US POSITION ON PLACARD MIGHT BE SEEN AS PLOY TO DISRUPT SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS. WE COUNTERED THAT OUR POSITION WAS STRICTLY LEGAL AND

DESIGNED TO KEEP COUNCIL COMPLETELY NEUTRAL. BRAZIL REP (MAGALHAES E SILVA) RELUCTANTLY ACCEDED TO CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE FORMULATION ON ANGOLA, BUT MADE CLEAR BRAZIL LIKELY TO FAVOR ACCEPTANCE OF NOTIFICATION AND CREDENTIALS IF SUBSEQUENTLY PRESENTED.

9. IN LIGHT SUBSEQUENT AGREEMENT OF SECRETARIAT AND MEDINA TO REMOVAL OF ANGOLA PLACE MEETINGS, WE DO NOT ANTICIPATE ANY SIGNIFICANT DIFFICULTIES AT NOVEMBER 20 COUNCIL MEETING. IT OF COURSE POSSIBLE THAT ONE OR MORE DELS MAY OBJECT TO ACTIONS OR TO CREDENTIALS REPORT, BUT WE SEE NO POSSIBILITY FOR ALTERATION OF RESULTS IN CURRENT CIRCUMSTANCES.

10. IF AS MEDINA SUGGESTED MPLA SHOULD ATTEMPT TO NOTIFY SECGEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 65, OUR UNDERSTANDING IS THAT SECGEN IN NEW YORK WOULD REFER QUESTION OF ACCEPTANCE OF SUCH NOTIFICATION BACK TO COUNCIL. NEITHER AGREEMENT NOR COUNCIL RULES SPEAK DIRECTLY TO PROCEDURES FOR COUNCIL IN SUCH A CASE, BUT WE BELIEVE PROPER COURSE WOULD BE TO REQUIRE AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF ACCEPTANCE BY DISTRIBUTED MAJORITY OF COUNCIL. WE DO NOT RPT NOT BELIEVE MAJORITY WOULD ACCEPT NOTIFICATION.

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11. IN SUM, WE ARE HOPEFUL THIS ISSUE WILL NOW RECEDE. WHILE WE ARE NOT SEEKING PRESS INTERVIEWS, OUR LINE HAS BEEN AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE THAT OUR POSITION BASED ON STRICT LEGAL CRITERIA, THAT WE COULD NOT ATTEND LAST NIGHT'S SESSION WHILE CONSULTATIONS STILL IN PROGRESS, AND THAT SO FAR AS WE ARE CONCERNED THIS ISSUE SHOULD NOT AFFECT SUBSTANTIVE WORK OF NEGOTIATIONS.

L2. IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO US IF USUN COULD MONITOR NOTIFICATION QUESTION IN NEW YORK SO THAT WE MAY BE FOREWARNED ANY CHANGE IN CIRCUMSTANCES.

RICHARDSON UNQTE
KISSINGER

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